

TRINITY CHARGE--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Ralph C. Link, Pastor
 Christ Church, Duncannon 9:00 A.M.
 Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP September 30, 1973

The Organ Prelude
 *The Hymn of Praise 12
 *The Call to Worship
 *The Prayer of Confession (Unison)
 Almighty God our Heavenly Father whose power is our protection and whose wisdom is our guidance, we come now confessing our sins and our repeated failures. We have forgotten Thee; we have tried to do without Thee; and we have failed. Forgive us we pray, for our every error and bring us by thy grace into fellowship with thy perfect holiness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
 *The Kyrie
 *The Assurance of Pardon
 The Scripture --- ~~John 10:24-33~~ *MATT: 10:24-33*
 *The Gloria Patri
 The Anthem (Trinity)
 The Pastoral Prayer
 The Announcements
 The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
 *The Doxology
 *The Offering Prayer and the Lord's Prayer
 The Hymn of Meditation 299
 The Sermon --- "How Much Are You Worth?"
 The Sermon Prayer
 *The Hymn of Response 394
 *The Benediction
 *The Threefold Amen
 *The Postlude

*Congregation Stands

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today at 4:00 PM the Rev. Horace S. Sills will be installed as the president of the Penn Central Conference, at Colonial Park United Church of Christ. The church is located at 5000 Devonshire Road.

Next Sunday we will observe World Wide Communion Sunday with the observance of the Lord's Supper in both churches.

Sunday Oct. 14th we will observe Harvest Home in both churches. Whatever is donated will be given to the Sadler Home in Carlisle. Although they cannot accept home canned goods, home-made jellies and preserves are accepted. You may also donate flour or sugar and commercially packed goods.

CHRIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The consistory meeting will be held Monday Oct. 1st at 7:30 PM.

MY RESIGNATION

ANNOUNCE CAROL LONG.

Call to Worship: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due
His name; bring an offering and come before Him!
Worship the Lord in Holy array; tremble before Him
all the earth.

Call to Confession: Jesus promised, that where two
or three are gathered together in His name, He is
there in the midst of them. Let us seek Him now
in confession.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon: Be comforted now and hear the
good tidings of the Gospel. If we truly repent of
our sins and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, then
by the authority and in the name of Christ, our sins
are forgiven according to His promise in the Gospel.
Believe the Gospel and receive His peace. Amen.

A CRUSADE FOR CHRIST, DUNCANNON
CHRIST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1973

"Revive Thy work O Lord! And make Thy servants bold;
Convict of sin, and work once more as in
the days of old.

Revive Thy work, O Lord, come now and answer prayer;
O come in Holy Spirit power, and save men everywhere."

Oswald J. Smith

The P.T.P. Singers

Announcements

Offering

Solo - Carol Rissinger

Hymns 152, 77

The Evening Message: Dr. Warren Sickman

Hymn 233

Benediction

We thank everyone who helped to make this service possible. We thank God for any and all who may have been helped and we pray that the love of Christ may endure in each and every heart. Please plan to attend the remaining services and bring your friends and neighbors.

"How Much Are You Worth?"

(JESUS)
BY HIS LIFE WE
HAVE WORTH

Text: Matthew 10:31, "Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

MATT.

If the question would be asked today in any group in our society, "How Much Are You Worth?", the answers would be many and varied. Some people would reach into their pockets or wallets and count the amount of money there, and state that they are worth a certain amount. Others would begin to total their stock market holdings and by figuring how many shares of such and such a stock, would come up with a certain figure. Still others would begin to total the amount of properties they own, and this would constitute their answer as to their worth.

But if I were to ask you the question this morning, what would each of ~~xxxx~~ you say? "How Much Are You Worth?" A good question. Jesus talks to his disciples in the 10th chapter of Matthew and he is giving them specific instructions in how to meet and greet the people in the towns to which they are to go. But a portion of what He is saying is not instruction, but is information regarding their faith and trust in God. He is strongly reassuring them that in all things God is with them.

(vs. 28, should not fear death or people who can kill. Fear only those who can destroy body and soul.)

(vs. 29, The Father knows even the sparrows no matter how numerous they may be. If one is lost He knows it.)

(vs. 30, God knows how many hairs are upon your head. In other words He knows us intimately.)

(vs. 31, Do not be afraid, you are of more worth than many sparrows.)

(First he tells the going price of sparrows, and then lets it be known that a person is worth much more than that.)

Now viewed by these standards we can come to the conclusion

that of all of God's creation, man is something of much more worth and value than anything else. This would mean that God cares more about the human race than he does for the birds or the animals or anything else that He has made. This is a fair assumption to make.

Now if this assumption is correct, then we must ask the next question, "Just how much is an individual worth?" If we ~~would~~ want to answer this question fairly we need to determine just how we judge worth. Is it by how high an office a person holds? Is it by how much fame a person has gained? Is it by how much property or wealth ~~and~~ an individual has amassed? Naturally we say no. But I often wonder if this is not the case when I read of the passing of people in the newspaper. The obituary always reads that he ~~or~~ belonged ^{to} ~~this~~ ~~group~~ or was a past master of that one. He served this club or that board. He was the grand wizard of this or that and so on. ~~Yet~~ It will state that Mrs. So and So was a member of a certain civic ladies group or held the office of Grand Dame of a certain lodge, or a leader of a certain garden club or whatever. Judging from these standards it would appear that the more clubs and civic organizations you can belong to in this life, the better person you are, and the more likelihood you will have of entering the kingdom of heaven.

But mixed in among all of these glorious tributes of men and women that one can read in the newspaper on any given evening, you will find one or two very small notices that merely say, "Mrs. Sadie Glotz passed away at the Carlisle Hospital, and is survived by a son or daughter and so many brothers and sisters and will be buried on a certain day of the week from a certain funeral home. From the appearance of a notice such as this, it would seem that such a person was not of much value or worth.

^{O.T. AN} We read in the ^A account of ~~the~~ wise woman from Tekoah coming to King David and having a conversation with him, and telling him

quite frankly in II Samuel 14:14, that God is no respecter of persons. What she is telling David is that everyone is worth the same in the eyes of God. So we can answer this question partially by saying, "That you are worth more than animals or birds or other forms of life, but you are not worth any more than your neighbor. He counts just as much as you in the sight of God. He may not hold as great a position in the business world, but he is loved just as much by God. The most common laborer is worth as much to God as is the corporation president." (Illustration of Gladstone and dying boy)

Mr. Gladstone was willing to share with a needy soul, that which only he could give at that moment. He was willing to forget his station in life and to become humble. This is also what Jesus was implying in this Scripture, and what He said at a later time. "He who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted." It is not how high up the ladder we are, but how we live and react to life around us, no matter what our station.

George Buttrick a New Testament scholar remarks, "The recovery of the sense of man's worth is in the reverence that first acknowledges God and then honors the treasure in a neighbors life." This is probably as good an answer to the question that one can come up with and it probably ~~is a complete~~ is a complete answer.

But as always when a question is raised concerning life, it must be asked in the light of Jesus. What about Him? What worth did he really place on life? What ~~is~~ are you worth? in His sight?

Well if we ~~look at~~ ^{SET} him ^{FOR} as the example we see that He was born in very humble beginnings. A stable was his birthplace, a manger His cradle. He worked for many years ~~is~~ as a common carpenter in an obscure village that was looked down upon by many. After all, "Could any good come from Nazareth?"

His ministry was launched without financial backing or

without the endorsement of any religious group. Even his own brothers and mother thought him mad and sought to take him back home under their protective custody.

He performed feats of healing and was never paid for any of them. He used the allegory that the animals had holes and birds had nests, but he did not have a place to sleep. He ate in people's homes, but most often it was in the homes of those people from whom others kept their distance. He probably went hungry more than once. He was distrusted and people sought to have him arrested for what they considered His blasphemy.

At the end of his life he was betrayed by a trusted friend, who gained thirty pieces of silver for that bit of work. He was brought to a speedy trial and even His trial judge was unable to figure what to do with him. He felt he was innocent and yet the crowd clamored for his death. So he had him whipped publicly and then ~~he~~ had him executed.

Paul said of Him, ~~That~~ "For your sake He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich." Now does all of this sound like someone of worth? ~~It does not.~~ It would appear that it is not the record of much worth. According to the standards of the world, a life lived such as the life of Jesus could not be worth much. Here was a man who never traveled more than 200 miles from his home. ~~A man who never wrote a book.~~ A MAN WHO NEVER HELD ANY HIGH OFFICE. A man who never had a formal education. A man who never owned any property. A man who never married, never had a family. A man who left no great possessions behind. A man who could show nothing for his life lived here on earth.

Why most of us have traveled much, much farther than Him. Most of us could say that we have owned or do own property. Most of us can say that we have had education of some sort. Most of us have some possessions. ~~Of what worth then is our life?~~ What worth then can we place upon the life of Jesus, and what is our worth?

(Illustration of the old violin and the touch of the master's hand.)

This is the worth of the life of Jesus. Everyone with whom He had contact, was touched in some way. Every person that has ever come to feel His touch has been changed. Yes, the real worth of a person is having been touched by the Master.

How Much Are You Worth? To the world you may not be worth anything, because you will be judged by what you have, and what you have done. But the words of the Master are still with us, "Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

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Call to Worship: Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord all the earth.

Call to Confession: Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon
you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly
in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Let
us cast our burden upon Him.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon: The Lord redeems the life of His
His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him
will be condemned. The Lord is near to the broken-
hearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. Amen.